AKI-CHAN AND I...
AREN'T BROTHER AND SISTER...?
FUFU, WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
THAT'S NOT TRUE AT ALL.
I... I HEARD YOU TWO TALKING, AND,
OH, OF COURSE NOT. SORRY...
OH? MILL...
WELL, I GIVE THAT IMPRESSION.
FROM THE WAY SOEJIMA-KUN TALKED, HE SEEMED YOUNGER THAN YOU...
OR...
HM?
SCENE 39
I CAN'T WIN...
WASN'T THE SOEJIMA HOUSE CAT'S NAME
"MILL-CHAN" TOO?

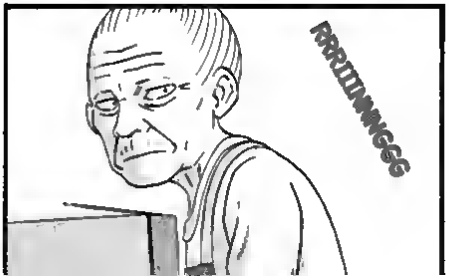
SCANLATION BY RPAPO

OUTTA MY WAY, YOU!!
GWAAM!
I'LL TRY AND CALL HER...
NAGANO CABBAGE
WHERE HAS SHE GONE OFF TO?
THAT MILL...
もりの

AREN'T I BUSY BECAUSE SHE SUDDENLY TOOK THE DAY OFF?
GOOD GRIEF, THOSE KIDS.
GYAA...

?
Necha-ran chara charar-ara~
FIFTH ANNIVERSARY
ALL CAKE GOODS
80%OFF
DRINK SETS ONLY FOR NOW
••• FOR 150 YEN •••
LARGE SERVING NO CHARGE
DOSUKOOI!!!

HAA... WHAT A MESS.
Larsson


PRRRTTTTTTNNGGG

HOW REFINED..
E... ENKA?
Cha cha~ That day~ It echoed
EH... GO AHEAD...
Even now~ I can hear~ I have a feeling~
AH... IT'S FROM AKI-CHAN.
...EXCUSE ME.
The sound~ Of the wind passing by~
AH, MILL!! WHERE ARE YOU RIGHT NOW!?
Hello...?
EEH !?
I'm meeting right now with Nakagoshi -san.
Larsson
RATTLE
I'm sorry I didn't go to the shop.
CABBAGE

Hmph It doesn't taste like in the Soejima house
IF SHE PICKS ON HER..!!
EVEN THOUGH IT'S AWKWARD EVEN NOW WITH WHAT HAPPENED IN YOKOHAMA..
MORE AND MORE CRACKS IN OUR RELATIONSHIP..
We're okay; we're just having tea.
WE, WELL... THEN TAKE CARE ON YOUR WAY HOME.
I'LL MEET YOU AT THE STATION, SO CALL ME.
Yes, thanks.
Larsson
MY RELATIONSHIP WITH AKI-CHAN,
AND MY NAME.
...YOU TWO'RE SURE CLOSE.
BEEP
HE WAS WORRIED.
AH...

YOU'RE THINKING TOO MUCH.
ABOUT THOSE...
YOU MISUNDERSTOOD, OF COURSE.
I SEEM LIKE I'M OLDER SIMPLY BECAUSE I'M A FUSSY GIRL, LIKE SOMEBODY'S GRANDMA.
SUCH THINGS ...
REALLY EXIST?
...YES, THEY DO.
IT'S TRUE OUR HOUSE-CAT WAS CALLED 'MILL'.
BUT AS FOR THAT,
MILL~
THE CAT WAS CONVINCED SHE WAS THE ONE BEING CALLED.
IT WAS BECAUSE WHENEVER SOMEBODY CALLED FOR ME,

THANK YOU
FOR BEING FRANK WITH ME.

Strawberry Shortcake
DOES THAT CLEAR THINGS UP?
WELL, THAT'S ALL THERE IS TO IT.

SORRY... I'D GOTTEN STRANGE IDEAS...
IT'S OKAY. I WAS THE ONE WHO ASKED YOU TO ASK.

WELL, THEN... THE SECOND.
THOUGH I HARDLY NEED TO ASK...

ABOUT AKI-CHAN.
DO YOU LIKE HIM?

YES.
I LOVE HIM.
NOW CUT THAT OUT!
HEHE... SORRY ABOUT THAT...
TALKING LIKE YOU'RE SO HAPPY.
.....
AH...

I AM SOMEHOW RELIEVED.
...RELIEVED?
YES.
EH, ALREADY?
WELL, IT'S ABOUT TIME I HEAD BACK.
BECAUSE AKI-CHAN'S WAITING.

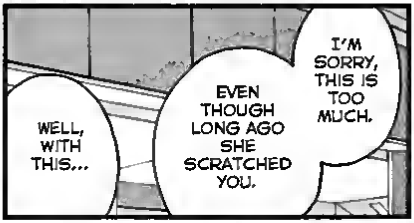
戸成駅
TONARI STATION
EH?
SEE YOU LATER...
AH, UMM...
THE THIRD QUES-TION...
IS IT STILL OKAY TO ASK?
IT'S OKAY! GO AHEAD, ASK ANY-THING.
...YEAH, BUT IT NEED NOT BE ASKED.
REALLY?
WELL THEN...
IT'S NOTHING IMPORT-ANT AT ALL...

IF AKI-CHAN WERE TO SAY, "I WANT TO KEEP A CAT"?

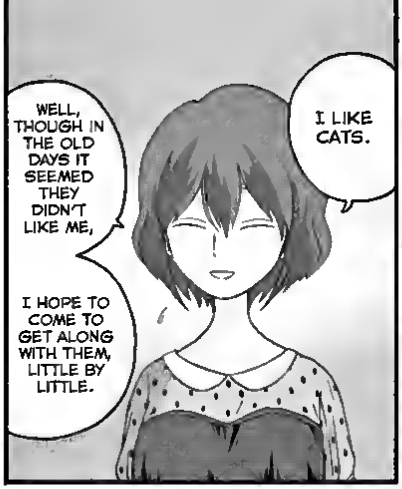
IF... IF BY CHANCE, YOU AND AKI-CHAN WIND UP LIVING TOGETHER...
WHAT WOULD YOU DO

YE, YES...
LIKE THE SOEJIMA HOUSE CAT MIL-CHAN?
A CAT... YOU SAY...

EH?


WELL, WITH THIS...
EVEN THOUGH LONG AGO SHE SCRATCHED YOU.
I'M SORRY, THIS IS TOO MUCH.

I AM OKAY WITH IT.


I LIKE CATS.
WELL, THOUGH IN THE OLD DAYS IT SEEMED THEY DIDN'T LIKE ME,
I HOPE TO COME TO GET ALONG WITH THEM, LITTLE BY LITTLE.

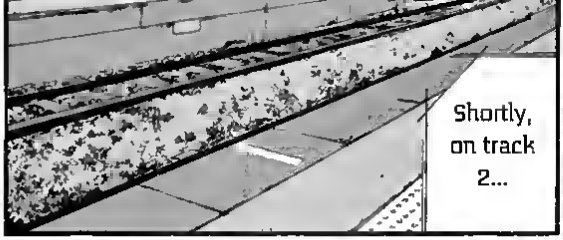
IF HE WERE TO SAY, "I WANT TO CARE FOR ONE,"
I THINK I WOULD SAY, "YES, SHALL WE?"

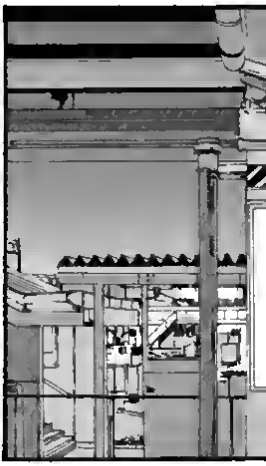
NAKAGOSHI -SAN.
THAT GIRL DOESN'T HATE YOU,

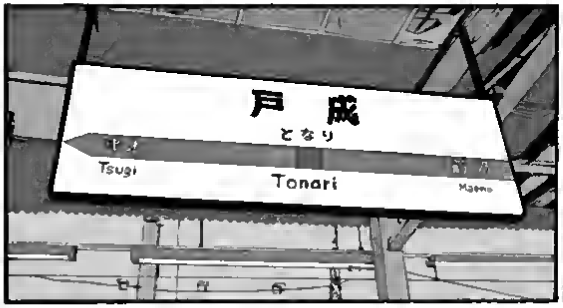
EH?
NO, THAT'S NOT TRUE.

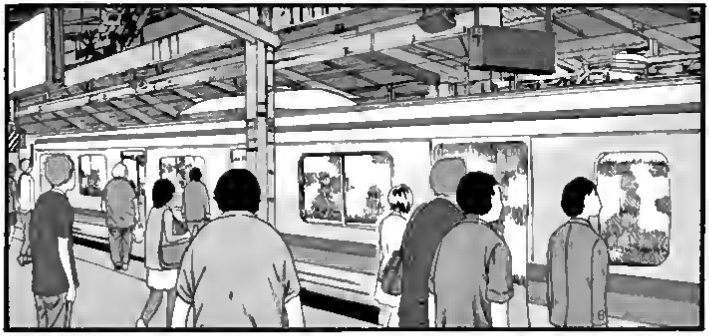
SHE WAS ONLY JEALOUS.
SHE COULDN'T WIN...

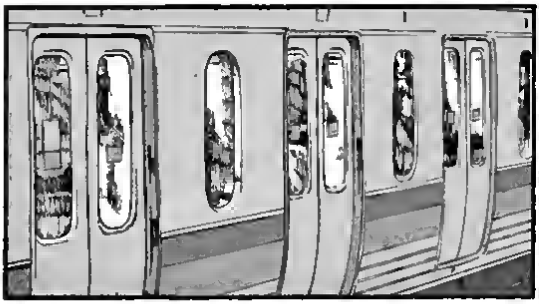
MURMUR
MURMUR
OVER ORDINARY GIRLS...
...EH? SORRY, BUT THAT JUST NOW...?
IT DOESN'T MATTER. WELL THEN,
TAKE CARE OF AKI-CHAN FROM NOW ON, OKAY?



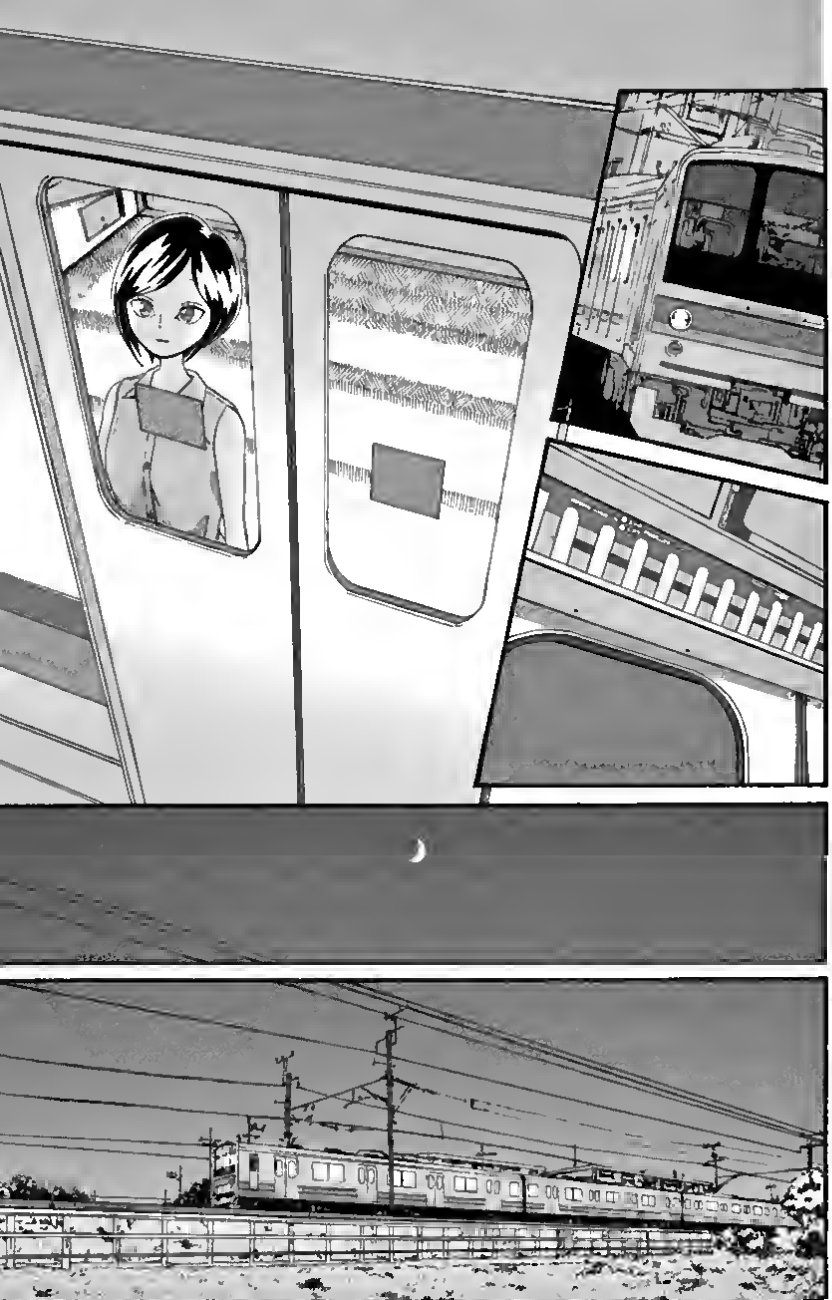








T/N: THE RAILWAY SIGN ABOVE IS A PLAY WITH JAPANESE WRITING. THE SOUNDS OF THE THREE PLACE NAMES ARE THE SAME AS THE JAPANESE WORDS FOR "NEXT", "AROUND HERE" AND "PREVIOUS."



AH, MILL~!!

I'M VERY SORRY.
I WAS WORRIED!! And this and that.
YOU'RE BACK!!

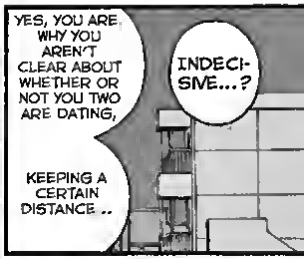
WELL THEN, LET'S GO HOME.

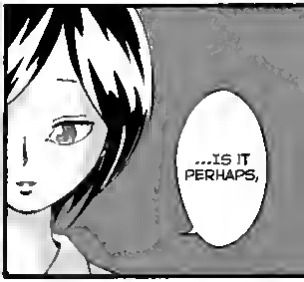
AH, SOMETHING I BOUGHT AT A TRANSFER STATION ON MY WAY BACK.
IT'S A HOUSEHOLD ACCOUNTS BOOK.
UM, WHAT'S THAT?

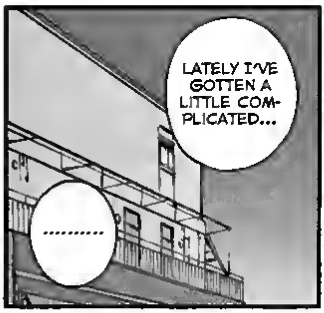
WOW...
I PLAN TO ECONOMIZE EVEN MORE!!

NO, NO WAY...
...SO, WHY'D YOU GO TO MEET NAKAGOSHI-SAN?
A DUEL!?
WOULD IT BE LIKE THAT?
NAKAGOSHI
AYA
Sakura
MILL
WHY ARE YOU STILL SO INDECISIVE?
EH?
MORE IMPORTANTLY, HOW ABOUT YOU AND NAKAGOSHI-SAN?
FOR A WHILE NOW I'VE THOUGHT WE NEEDED TO HAVE A PROPER TALK, JUST ONCE...
'HOW ABOUT'...?

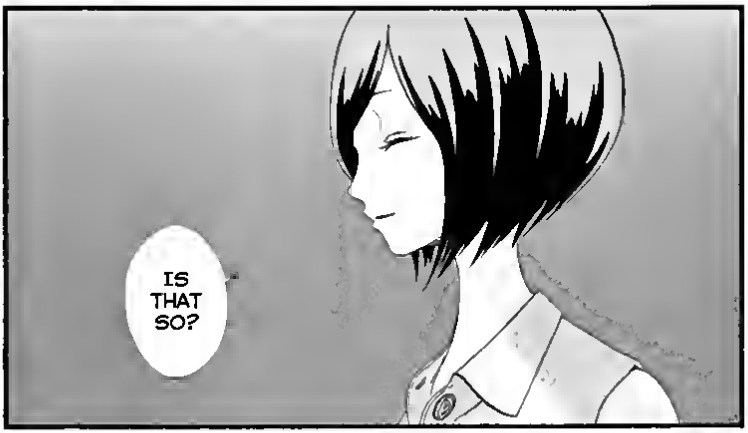
THAT YOU ARE CONCERNED ABOUT ME...?


YES, YOU ARE. WHY YOU AREN'T CLEAR ABOUT WHETHER OR NOT YOU TWO ARE DATING,
KEEPING A CERTAIN DISTANCE..
INDECISIVE...?


...IS IT PERHAPS,


LATELY I'VE GOTTEN A LITTLE COMPLICATED...
.....

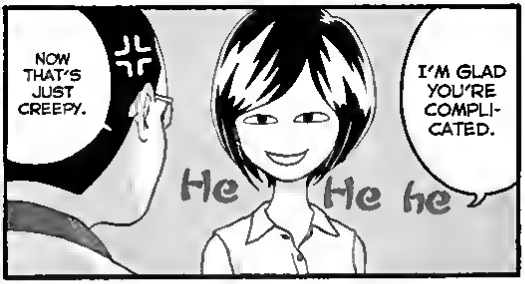
EH?
IT'S JUST THAT I'M PATHETIC. Haha
IT'S NOTHING.


IS THAT SO?

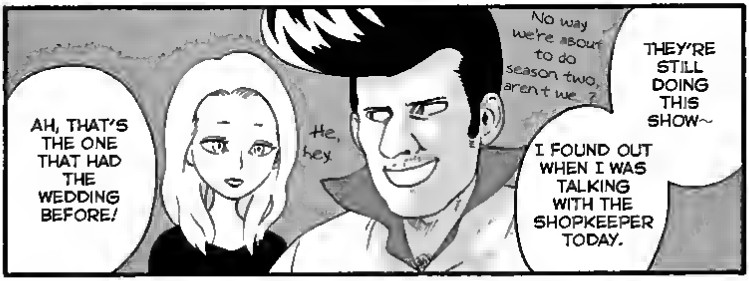
MAYBE I'M GLAD... HMM.
IF THAT'S THE WAY IT IS, THERE MAY NOT BE ANY PROGRESS FROM NOW ON.
Hmm hmm

WELL...

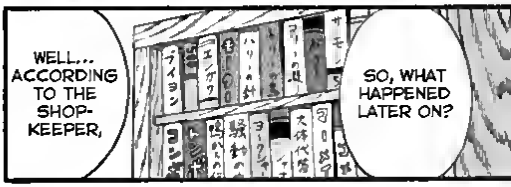
Ahaha


NOW THAT'S JUST CREEPY.
I'M GLAD YOU'RE COMPLI-CATED.
He He he

AHAHA
Oy, are you useless?
Papa washed me too much again.


THEY'RE STILL DOING THIS SHOW~
No way we're about to do season two, aren't we?
I FOUND OUT WHEN I WAS TALKING WITH THE SHOPKEEPER TODAY.
He, hey
AH, THAT'S THE ONE THAT HAD THE WEDDING BEFORE!

WHAT AN AWFUL TURN OF EVENTS...
HEY... OH, THIS PERSON!
UWAAH~


SO, WHAT HAPPENED LATER ON?
WELL... ACCORDING TO THE SHOP-KEEPER,

WITH THE PUSHY MOTHER IN LAW COMING ON STAGE,
SHE SAID THINGS HAVE GOTTEN INTEREST-ING...

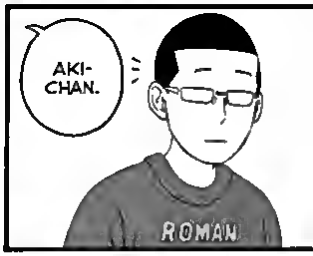
WELL, FOR SOME REASON...
AREN'T YOU TOO?
EH?
...I...
"Even"?
You aren't even good at making cookies, eh?
OH... THE DEFEATED BRIDE...
WHAT'S THIS? ARE TAKING THE BRIDE'S SIDE?
HAHAHA, YOU'RE RIGHT...
WHAT THE?
EH? BUT BEFORE,
Mama, take it easy.
I'D RATHER TAKE THE MOTHER-IN-LAW'S SIDE.
YES, BUT I'M CLOSER IN AGE TO THE MOTHER-IN-LAW.
YOU WATCHED THE BRIDE...

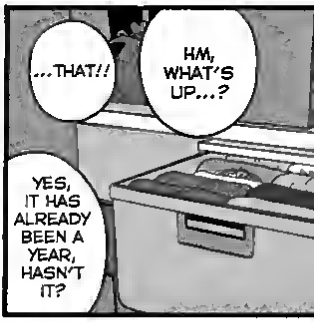
SHALL I DO THAT...?

Next time
"Once More, Recklessly"
IT'S OVER.

YOU OUGHT TO GO TO BED EARLY.
YAWN
ROMAN ZEMAN
OH MAN, I'M BEAT...

SINCE I CAME HERE.


AKI-CHAN.
ROMAN


...THAT!!
HM, WHAT'S UP...?
YES, IT HAS ALREADY BEEN A YEAR, HASN'T IT?

HEY, AKI-CHAN.
HM?

COME ON IN
YES, BUT EVEN THOUGH YOU BOUGHT IT FOR ME, I HAVEN'T WORN IT A SECOND TIME...
THAT'S RIGHT!! WE WENT AND BOUGHT THOSE CLOTHES!!

WE CAN'T GO BACK INTO AN EXPENSIVE STORE WE JUST WENT TO.
THERE IS NO SUCH STORE!!
OF COURSE NOT!!
Hahaha

CAN'T I WEAR THIS AND WE GO SHOPPING IN THAT STORE?
TWIRL...
Well, well...
WELL, IT LOOKS LIKE IT'D BE FUN.

AH, ONCE I'VE UPDATED THE ACCOUNTS, THAT'S NEXT...
WELL THEN, SHALL WE BE GETTING TO SLEEP?
OH? WELL THEN, GOOD NIGHT.
ROMAN ZEMAN